April 1 to the Bath State of 200

"Court of Claims"-The Widow Darden Horse.

The bill introduced into the Senate of the United States by the Hon. Richard M. Brodhead, of Pennsylvania, "to establish a court for the investigation of claims against the United States," has passed that body; and, having been published, is now undergoing an exami-nation at the bar of public opinion. It is a measure of vast importance to the government and the people; and has, heretofore, been sev-eral times brought before the House of Representatives and ably discussed by some of its leading members. But, until the present session, it has been stifled in its incipient state and suffered to die before it assumed a tangi ble form. Senator Brodhead has, however produced its resuscitation in a skillful manner and, by the exercise of untiring energy and great ability, has succeeded in obtaining for i the earnest and eloquent advocacy of some of the leading and most distinguished members of that august body. It goes into the House therefore, with the best endorsers to secure it final passage; and, if we can form a correct opinion from the general expression already uttered in its favor by the public press and our best informed citizens, it will be one of the most popular measures adopted by Congress.

Before making any comments upon the

Before making any comments upon the principle or detail of the bill, I will notice some acidents referred to by Senators, in the debate upon its merits. Indeed, my principal motive at this time, in sitting down to write this arti cle, was to afford an opportunity of relating something of an anecdote connected with one of the incidents referred to. At the commencement of his explanatory speech, when the bill was first called up in the Senate, in its original form, Mr. Brodhead said it proposed "to reme dy an evil which was a crying one for the last twenty or twenty-five years." And Mr. Clayton, in his remarks on the bill, after it was reported back by the select Committee, exhibited figures to show the immense expense incurred by Con gress in the investigation of private claims. Among other striking allusions to the extravagant and ridiculous waste of time and money in this respect, he states his belief that "the celebrated case of Amy Darden's horse had cost the country more than the proposed tribu nal would cost in twenty years!

Now, for a brief history of Mrs. Amy Darden's horse. The allusion made to him by the Sen ator from Delaware, has revived a little episode published among the sketches of Congressiona proceedings, during the war of 1812, concerning the celebrated horse "Romulus" whose value was claimed from the United States, by the widow Darden. One of the closest obser vers of passing events, and ablest political writers at that time in the country, Matthew Carey, in commenting upon the culpable waste of time, by Congress, in making long and use less speeches, especially during the war session of 1813, '14 and '15, also speaks of the interfer ence of private and sometimes the most triflin business, with the action of that body, and a occupying a large portion of the time, which was so earnestly required by the important af fairs of the nation. In illustration of his position Mrs. Darden's horse is introduced upon the stage. "Here," says he, "I must notice one particular case of the most extraordinary kind that ever occupied the attention of a public

body. Never was there a greater mockery of a deliberative assembly.

"A stud-horse, called Romulus, belonging to a Mr. David Darden, was impressed by a continental officer, in the year 1781! Having been valued at seven hundred and fifty pounds. specie, General Green returned him on account of the extraordinary price. He was afterwards taken by another officer, and never returned. The widow of David, Mrs. Amy Darden, has been a very assiduous applicant to Congress for remuneration from that period; and the sub ject has at various sessions, occupied a large portion of the time of that body! The wages of Congress, during the time of the debates, would, I am persuaded, purchase horses for the best appointed regiment of dragoons in ginia used to ride ROMULUS into Congress, in great state, every year during his life. He is now no more. Who has been appointed 'Master of the horse' in his place, I cannot decide. But that he has a successor, is beyond all doubt; for Darden's horse was curvetting and prancing as usual, even during the late very important session!! [Session of 1814 and 1515.] A gentleman to whom I mentioned this circumstance, informs me that in the years 1802 and 1803, there were two pamphlets published on this subject, at the expense of the nation, for the use of the members, the cost of which would, perhaps, have paid for the horse. To render this whole procedure more culpable, as well as more farcical the Senate of the United States were, on the 7th, 8th, or 9th of February, 1815, when every moment of their time was inexpressibly invalu-able, gravely debating a bill for the remunera-tion of Mrs. Darden!! And they were then within a month of the close of their session, and had made no provision for the defense of our cities, liable to hourly destruction, nor for the restoration of the public credit!! The mind is lost in the most profound astonishment at the contemplation of such conduct, I am mis taken if the annals of legislation can produce a parallel. One of two things: The claim is JUST OF UNJUST. If the former, it is disgrace ful and dishonorable not to have discharged it If otherwise, it is really in sufferable to have the PUBLIC taxed by such importunity."

It must be remembered that the above was written in the fall of 1815, or early in the year of 1816. But "Romulus," although a relict of the revolutionary war, was far from being disposed of by Congress at the last session of the second war with England, where he occupied the prominent position described in the fore going historical sketch. He held to on the pub-lic manger for many long years afterwards; and the perseverance of his mistress and the industry of Congress, added to the great caution, acute notions of economy and praiseworthy re gard for the public interests manifested by that honorable body, throughout the great struggle with the widow and her horse, deserves furthe notice. AMY DARDEN and "Romulous" came into Congress in the year 1794, and finally took their leave in the year 1832, with the money, in fall, for their claim! This was a strugg! lasting through thirty-eight years—longer, per-haps, than will last the present war between the Allies and Russia—before victory was obtained. It is, therefore, a circumstance worthy of mature consideration; and to introduce it people, I will refer to the official records of the country. properly to the attention of Congress and the

On the 27th of January, 1848, the House o Representatives of the United States adopted a resolution, directing the Clerk "to cause to be prepared an alphabetical list of private claims which have been before the House of Representatives from the commencement of the first Congress to the close of the 31st Congress, with the proceedings of the House of Repre-sentatives and Senate thereon, showing the names of the claimants; the nature or object of each claim; at what session, and in what man-ner it was brought before the House; to what committee it was referred; the nature of the report, and number, if printed; and, if not, the date of the report; the number of the billsbetween the Senate and House bills; the manner in which the claim was disposed of in the House; and, in cases where it cased both Houses, the date of the act of Conof the Twenty-sixth Congress it was next prebills; the manner in which the claim was dispassed both Houses, the date of the act of Congress," with other instructions, directed to the attention of the Clerk, in the discharge of his duties under the resolution. The House of Representatives afterwards directed this work to be printed, as a public document, and the first volume, containing 782 pages, has been of the I wenty-sixth Congress it was next presented as follows: "For compensation for services and interest on loan office certificates." I presume this is the same claim formerly presented! In this way it was presented at every sented! In this way it was presented at every sented on the I wenty-sixth Congress it was next presented as follows: "For compensation for services and interest on loan office certificates." I presume this is the same claim formerly presented! In this way it was presented at every sented! In this way it was presented as follows: "For compensation for services and interest on loan office certificates." I presume this is the same claim formerly presented! In this way it was presented as follows: "For compensation for services and interest on loan office certificates." I presume this is the same claim formerly presented! In this way it was presented at every sented! Congress, generally obtaining a favorable re-

issued from the press; it is called, "Digested Summary and Alphabetical List of Private Claims, which have been presented to the House of Representatives, from the first to the thirty-first Congress, exhibiting the action of Congress on each claim, with references to the ournals, reports, bills, &c., elucidating its progress." The execution of the work, in the volume printed, is admirable, magnificent in all its parts; and when completed, it will be invaluable, as a book of reference and instruction, to Congress, to the Departments, and to

mitted-date of report, January 26, 1796.

The third trial was by resolution, at the second

session of the same Congress, which was referred to the Committee on Claims, and a favorable report made thereon, February 24,

1797-referred to the Committee of the Whole

House. And thus the claim of Amy Darden

went on from session to session, sometimes

reported upon favorably, but more frequently adversely, up to the second session of the Eleventh Congress, when the House reported and passed a bill for her relief, which was re-

ected by the Senate. After four more disas-

trous trials at the third session of the Thir

teenth Congress, a bill again passed the House for her relief, and was again rejected by the Senate. There, then, appears to have been an armistice agreed upon, as the battle did not re-

commence until the second session of the Twenty-first Congress, when a bill was again re-

ported, which was strangled by reference to the Committee of the Whole House. At the next session, however, victory perched upon the banner of Mrs. Amy Darden; a bill passed Congress to remunerate her for the loss of "Remules"

"Romulus," and was approved by the President on the 15th day of June, 1832.

This was, indeed, a long struggle. From 794 to 1832—thirty-eight years! There are

1794 to 1832—thirty-eight years? There are many trite sayings in allusion to things con

tested, costing the victor more than their worth

such as "paying rather dear for the whistle,

"costing more than they come to," and "a horse cating his head off;" and really, if Romulus did not "eat his head off," provisions must have been much cheaper at the National

Capitol, during his thirty-eight years keeping

than the newspapers represent them to be at present—unless the 750 pounds in specie (about \$3,750,) at which the gallant horse was

ralued at the time he was impressed into the

Continental service in 1781, was at least doubled, and compound interest allowed upon it by Congress, which is not in the slightest

degree probable. But what must it have cost "Uncle Sam," in the pay of members and

other Congressional expenses, for the time oc-

cupied in ascertaining the real value of Ro

nulus, and whether Amy Darden was the

tawful widow and representative of David, the bona fide owner of the horse? Mr. Carey puts

lown the wages of Congress alone at a sum

sufficient to "purchase horses for the bes

appointed regiment of dragoons in Christen-dom!" and he only estimated the expenses up

to the year 1815, whereas they were continued to 1832, seventeen years longer! Now, as the

expenses of Congress annually increased, the

ost to the United United must have been at

wo full regiments of dragoons in our plain

American style, and pay for their services long

nough to subdue the Kansas, Nebraska, an

other Indiano, (red or white,) on our western frontier, whose depredations appear to be daily

In looking over the Congressional proceed

ngs from the commencement of the Govern

as existed for more than twice "twenty or

rapid growth, only kept time with this "pro-gressive age." If blame therefore, is to be at

loss in time and money, both to the United States and to individual claimants. At pres-

ent, and for many years past, it has been a physical impossibility for members of Congress

to examine, judicially, and pass judgment upon

the private claims pressed upon their attention without entirely neglecting the public business

of the country. An attempt to do so, almost

amounted to a mockery of justice and good

faith, toward the Government and the people, and it is only to be regretted that the project

which has been adopted by the Senate, and is now before the House of Representatives, pro-

viding for the organization of "a court for the investigation of claims against the United States," had not been adopted by Congress

early in the present century.

The magnitude of the work involved in the

examination of private claims against the gov-ersment, is glaringly exhibited in the "Digest-ed Summary and Alphabetical List of Private Claims, &c., published by order of the House

of Representatives, to which I have already re

ferred. This work will be of incalculable bene

fit to the new court, as well as to the public De

partments and Congress. It exhibits, at a min-utes glance, information which would take days

and weeks to obtain, by searching the old Con gressional documents. Members could send no

if it were deposited at the seat of governmen in every State, and at the seat of justice in

every city, borough and county in the States

it would save many good citizens much time

labor and expense in looking after reported

claims held by their ancestors. It would also

serve to keep honest but ignorant persons (having good claims without knowing their

character or origin) out of the hands of sharp-ers who often purchase such claims from this

class at one-fourth, or perhaps one-tenth their value. On the other hand it furnishes an easy

detector to Congress; and if it had been ap plied to, would have prevented the recent ap propriation in the South Carolina case for

relief of the heirs of Samuel Priolean, provided

that was a claim paid under a special act. By reference to the first volume of this work, the

whole proceedings had, heretofore, upon the claim of the heirs of Baron DeKalb, now before

Congress, can be examined in a few moments

That claim was first introduced in the House

of Representatives, by petition, at the first session of the Sixteenth Congress. It was referred to the Committee on Pensions and Revolu-

tionary Claims, reported adverse, and laid on

the table. At the second session of the same Congress it met the same fate. It did not again come before the House until the first

sgain come before the House until the first session of the Twenty-third Congress, when it was presented by petition and President's mes-sage and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, without further action. At the first session of the Twenty-fourth Congress peti-tion presented and not referred; at the second

session referred to the Committee on Revolu

tionary Claims. Up to this time the claim is

more valuable book to their constituents; and

Congress for the existence of this

the difference between the investigation of claims before a court sitting in public, with open doors, and committees of Congress, or clerks of the departments—as well as to venture some suggestions, in reference to placing additional guards around the proceedings of the contemplated tribunal, for the purpose of enabling it more certainly to detect frauds attenuated to be practised. But the least best I The first volume of this excellent work em tempted to be practised. But the long heat I braces all the claims held by claimants whose names range from A to G, inclusive. It, therefore, presents the name and claim of Mrs. have given "Romulus" has occupied so much time and space, that I am admonished of its being time to draw the reins, and wait for an other opportunity. In concluding these home-spun remarks, therefore, I will only reiterate the expression of opinion, that the bill to es-Darden, registered in due form-" Darden, David, by Amy, widow of -twenty-two gress! The first application was made by pe tablish a court for the adjudication of claims, as proposed by Senator Brodhead, is greeted with decided approbation wherever the subject has tition, at the first session of the Third Con gress, and was, without reference, laid on the been canvassed, and its final passage by Con The second was to the first session of the Fourth Congress—referred to the Committee on Claims, and an adverse report made to the Committee of the Whole House, was recomgress is looked for with intense anxiety.

House at three sessions, but was defeated in

intended to express some views in contrasting

the Senate.

ESS. SEE ESS.,
At his Country Cabin in Pennsylvania. December 29, 1854.

Railroad. To the Editors of the Washington Sentinel. GENTLEMEN: A communication in a recennumber of the Richmond Enquirer in relation to the remission of duties on railroad iron has induced me to examine the action of the

General Government on that subject. The fol-lowing are the facts: 1st. By the act of July 14, 1832, (stat. at Large, vol. 4, p. 604,) railroad iron of all kinds, including rails, spikes, bolts, chains, &c., was made duty free if laid within three years from the time of importation. This law was general in its provisions, and continued i operation some eleven years. The policy originated in 1831, and before it was terminated in 1843, by the tariff passed by the Whigs in 1842, about seven millions of dollars were re funded from the Treasury of the United State

to the railroad companies.

2d. After the passage of the act of July 1836, duties were charged on spikes, pins, &c. at the same rates as they were charged or other iron; but rails remained duty free until March 3, 1843. [See U.S.Laws, vol.5, pp. 551.] 3. During the whole eleven years in railroad iron was duty free, in every case where a company was unable to lay down its iron within three years from the date of its impor tation, an application to Congress obtained special relief. A reference to the Journal of the House, in three several cases, shows that they were passed nem. con. and without even a call for the yeas and nays. I presume the rest were passed the same way; all parties, and al sections of the country acquiescing in the policy. I notice that several of these special acts were for the benefit of Pennsylvania rail-

From the Treasury table before me I able to trace \$4,408,919.20, and see for whose benefit the duties were refunded, but the balance I cannot trace; from this table, it seems that of the \$4,408,919.20, Pennsylvania, New York, and New England obtained some two millions and three-quarters, and of this latter sum Pennsylvania obtained \$1,044,875.24 Virginia \$166,022.99. South Carolina \$210, 331.92. Georgia \$152,935.80. How the balance of the near seven millions of dollars refunded from the Treasury of the United States was distributed among the several States do not know; it is fair to suppose that it was divided as was the four millions; and, if so, it went principally to the capitalists of Pennsyl vania, New York, and New England, and helps least double at the last mentioned date, and amount to a sum equal to the equipment of to account for their numerous roads and large

4. By the tariff act of 1842, (see U. S. Stat of \$25 per ton was laid upon railroad iron; but this was not to take effect small the 3d of March of the following year.

5. In 1846, by the act of 30th of July, a

Democratic Congress reduced the duties of \$25 per ton upon railroad iron to 30 per cent. upon its actual cost.

ment, it will be seen that the "evil," which Senator Brodhead's bill is intended to remedy, From this history of the legislation of Conress upon railroad iron, we se first eleven years it was exempted from all du ties, if laid down within three years from the date of its importation. If laid down after wards, special acts refunded from the Treasury twenty-five years." It became an evil at its first initiation into Congress, and has in its the sums paid therefor. During the succeed evil, that blame should date back more than ing four years (from 1842 to 1846,) a specific twenty-five years, "when it might have been more easily checked than at present, and would have prevented the intermediate incalculable duty of \$25 per ton was imposed, and during the next nine years (from 1846 to 1855,) there has been collected a duty of 30 per cent. upon the cost of imported railroad iron-eleven year ree from duty, thirteen years subject to duty It will readily occur to the intelligent reade that the principle involed in making railroad iron duty free, and of refunding duties years after they had been paid, has been sanctioned by all parties, and been quietly acquiesced in not directly approved, by the greatest and the best men of the country in public life, dur ing one of the most brilliant periods in American history—from 1831 to 1843.

The general act of 1832, and the numerous pecial acts, were passed during the presidencies Andrew Jackson, Martin Van Buren, and John Tyler. In Congress were the following remarkable men, all of whom, so far as I have noticed, acquiesced in, and most, if not all, o whom directly sanctioned the principle of mak-ing railroad iron duty free. Messrs. Calhoun Clay, Woodbury, Webster, Buchanan, R. J. Walker, Marcy, Bell of Tennessee, Clayton, Boyd, McDuffie, Polk, Livingston, Silas Wright, Boyd, McDume, Polk, Livingston, Silas Wright,
Tazewell, W. R. King, Abbot Lawrence, Berrian, Crittenden, Whittlesey, Cave Johnson,
Governor Troup of Georgia, Sevier, Governor
Dickinson of New Jersey, B. W. Leigh, Hugh
L. White, Caleb Cushing, General Hayne of
South Carolina, John Quincy Adams, P. P. Barbour, George Wayne, &c., &c.

No one of these great men, of the various parties in Congress, seemed to have seriously assailed the plan of encouraging the construc-tion of railroads by making the rails duty free General Jackson and his successors directly approved the laws, general and special; and the treasury's returns show that of all the States, Pennsylvania and New York obtained from the treasury, under those laws, by far the most money. Under the workings of those laws making iron rails duty free, many, if not most, of the leading railroads of Pennsylvania, New York, and New England, were constructed in whole or in part. To aid in build-ing those great railroads that have done so much towards making Baltimore, Philadelphia New York and Boston what they are, iron for railroad purposes was made duty free during an unbroken period of eleven years. And yet, at that very time, and during the whole eleven years, a specific duty of thirty dollars per ton was levied upon iron used for all other than railroad purposes in every part of the United

As forcibly showing how far Congress actu ally went to encourage the building of railroads in the States, wealthy enough in those days to construct them, we mention that the days to construct them, we mention that the duty paid into the treasury on iron laid down on what is now a portion of the great railroad connecting New York and Boston, was refunded from the treasury of the United States by special act of Congress, (and apparently without opposition from any quarter,) some five years after the importation of the iron by the company! Is it matter of wonder that New England, New York, and Pennsylvania, have most population, manufactures commerce, and most population, manufactures, commerce, and wealth, when we see that they took advantage of the liberal legislation of Congress, and built, at an early day, that kind of modern avenues, and many of them, which enrich all communities who are able to construct them? Their brilliant success has caused extensive imitation, and with like success. And I hope to see the day when railroads will reach alike the Rio Grande, at its head waters, and the Red

port from the committee, and a bill passed the River of he North, in latitude 49°-when they will extend to the Bay of San Francisco, to the month of the Columbia, and to Puget's Sound,

When I commenced writing this article, I in far off Washington Territory.

The foregoing hasty historical account of Congressional legislation in aid of railroad communications, will, I hope, furnish an insight into the reasons that cause the Southern and Western States to hope that they will be allowed privileges, the enjoyment of which has had so much to do with the prosperity that we now have the happiness to witness in the Northern and middle States; it explains some what the instructions of Virginia and other States, and shows why they directed senators to vote to make railroad iron duty free.

THE SECOND EXHIBITION OF THE METROPOLITAN MECHANICS INSTI-

For the Promotion and Encouragement o Manufactures, Commerce, and the Mechan and Useful Arts,

Will be opened at the City of Washington, on Thursday, the Sth day of February, 1854 in the new and spleadid Hall of the Smithsonian Institution, which is one of the most magnificent rooms in the United States.

To this Exhibition the Manufactures, Mechanics Animals and States.

To this Exhibition the Manufactures, Mechanics, Artists, Inventors, and all others desiring to display the results of their labor, skill, ingenuity, and taste, from all portions of the Union, are cordially invited to contribute.

The Machinery Department will be under the charge of a special Superintendent. Steam power, fixtures, labor, &c., will be given free of expense. All intending to exhibit are requested to give notice at as early a day as possible. Goods should be accompanied with a proper invoice.

The committee, therefore, feel that, in inviting contributions from all portions of the Union to the SECOND EXHIBITION OF THE METROPOLITAN MECHANICS' INSTITUTE, they are offering to the pro-

CHANCS' INSTITUTE, they are offering to the producer of excellent articles a valuable opportunity of making known to the whole country their nov of mating known to the whole country their nov-elty and utility, the superior style of their work-manship, and their adaptation to the purposes for which they may be intended.

They would respectfully solicit from the Ladies those specimens of elegant handiwork, which heretofore have formed so attractive and import-ant a feature of these displays. It is proposed to submit all stee contributions to a Committee of

submit all such contributions to a Committee of Ladies, and to award to articles of merit, prem ums of jewelry, &c., suited to the tastes of the fair exhibitors.

The Hall will be opened for the reception of the reception

Goods, on Monday, the 29th day of January, and on the evening of Thursday, the 8th of February at 7 o'clock, the Exhibition will be formally opened for the reception of visiters, and continue open

for the reception of visiters, and continue open about four weeks.

No article deposited after Saturday night, 3d of February, can be entered upon the Judges' Lists for competition or premium, except such as the Committee shall be satisfied were dispatched from a distance in time to have reached the Hall by that t'ay, but failed to arrive from unavoidable de-

Articles designed for exhibition only, will be re received free of charge, until Tuesday night, 6th of February, at 10 o'clock; after which time, depositors will be subject to a charge of from 50 cents to \$1 for each article deposited.

Aprentices and minors, who contribute articles of their own make or invention, shall specify their age, and the time they may have served at their husiness.

All articles deposited for competition and pre-mium must be of American manufacture, con-spicuously labelled with appropriate names; the name of the maker and inventor, (if known,) and the name of the depositor; a copy of which labe must be furnished the clerk at the time of bringing the goods for entry on the record. Prices may affixed, or not, at the option of the exhibitor.

Depositors, at the time of entry, will receive a ticket of title to their goods, which ticket will also admit them to the Exhibition at all times when open to the public.

N. B.—Goods should be addressed as follows: "Exhibition of the Metropolitan Mechanics' Insti-tute, Washington, D. C." and should have the na-ture of the articles, and the name of the party sending them, distinctly marked on the packages. They should also be accompanied by a detailed

voice. Circulars, containing detailed instructions, w be forwarded, and any information given, on application to the Corresponding Secretary, to whom all communications on the business of the Institute should be addressed.

Oct 31—36 www.

A NCHOVIES, Varieties, and Shrim
Anchovies in sauce, in pickle, and salt.
Essence of Lobsters, Anchovies, and Shrimps.

Just received by
SHEKELL BROTHERS,

RTCLES of Utility.-Christmas Presents!—STEVENS, Browns' Hotel, has a large, and elegant assortment of Gents' s, Napoleon Ties, Handkerchiefs, Cravats, Gloves, &c., of the best quality and latest importa-tions. Persons making presents will find our as-sortment complete and of the best quality, and at the lowest prices. Sales Room, Browns' Hotel.

DRESENTS .- M. W. GALT&BROTHER will open daily, until after the holydays, the richest styles of new Jewelry, Fancy Silverware and bijouterie of every description suitable fo

presents.

Their assortment is larger and more varied Purchasers would do well to make their selection

ions early, and avoid the bustle of the holydays.
M. W. GALT & BROTHER. Penn. av., bet. 9th and 10th sts

T ATER YEARS, by the Author of "the the Old House by the River."

Mr. Rutherford's Children, second volume.

Pebbles from the Lake Shore, or Miscellaneou oems, by Charles Leland Potter, A. M.

General Notions of Chemistry, translated from the French, by Edmund C. Evans, M. D. The Land of the Saracens, by Bayard Taylor. Brushwood picked up on the Continent; o ast Summer's Trip to the Old World, by Orville Horwitz.

Discovery of the Sources of the Mississipp River, by Henry R. Schoolcraft. Dana's Minrealogy, 4th edition. The above are selected from a large arrival new books at

Bookstore, near 9th st. ADVERTISEMENT.

The Wood-Gas Controversy. RATHER sharp but distant firing A carried on by some persons interested in Wood-Gas Patents; and we perceive that the smoke of their cannon has somewhat obscured their vision. Dr. C. G. Page, as the attorney for W. P. McConnell, having presented his claims through our columns, L. R. Breisach, of this city, has presented those of Pettenkofer & Ruland, or Bavaria—he being their assignee—through the columns of the Daily Times of the 3d instant. He states that the first patent for the Bavarian inver-tion was issued on February 24, 1851, an author ticated copy of which has been filed in our Paten ticated copy of which has been filed in our Patent Office; also, that the claims of his assignors were filed in the office, to protect their rights, more than a year ago. As no patent can be obtained for making or using Wood-Gas, the disputed point relates to the apparatus, which embraces the reheating of the gas—passing it over a red-hot surface in its way to the cooler—after it is generated; this is clearly stated in Dr. Page's letter, on page 50. Now, as McConnell claims to have invented the apparatus for reheating Wood-Gas, as far back as 1849—two years previous to the granting of the Bayarian patent—and as he obas far back as 1849—two years previous to the granting of the Bavarian patent—and as he obtained a patent for the same, on the 26th day of September last, although contested by Pettenkofer & Ruland, we cannot well conceive who L. R. Breisach wants to frighten, by declaring, through the columns of the Times, that he will prosecute the violators of the Bavarian invention. He gives the violators of the Bavarian invention. He gives this notice to all who take an interest in the introduction of this invention, but, in doing so, he forgot to present any fact upon which the public can rely, to show what patent rights he possesses. When he again writes to inform the public that has certain patent rights, and will prosecute those who infringe them, we hope he will be so good as to state what these rights are, so that the public may know what he means.—Scientific American.

Nov 16—tf

E XTRA Heavy-plated Tea Sets, Albata Forks, Spoons, &c.—M. W. Gait & Bro. have just received a beautiful assortment of—Extra Plated Tea Sets, latest styles Castors, Cake Baskets, Card Trays, &c. Also, superior Albata Forks and Spoons.
The above are of the very best quality, and un-The above are of the very best quality, and ur

M. W. GALT & BRO. Penn. avenue, between 9th and 10th sts. Congressional.

THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

Senate\_Thursday, January 4, 1855. the position he has for some time held as Superin-

Senate—Thursday, January 4, 1855.

The Senate passed the bill of the House to continue for one year from the fourth of March next, the Board of Commissioners now in session in California for the adjudication of land claims.

Mr. SUMNER presented a memorial of citizens of Massachusetts, in which they set forth evils which, they think, result from foreign immigration. The memorialists express their conviction that the means for remedying those evils cannot be found in any modification of the existing naturalization laws, and conclude that the only effective means to accomplish their object will be the passaches. ralization laws, and conclude that the only effective means to accomplish their object will be the passage, by Congress, of a law imposing a direct tax of not less than two hundred and fifty dollars on every immigrant arriving from a foreign country. It was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. The bill to grant a three years' credit to railroad companies for duties on iron which they import, was reported back this morning by Mr. Toucky, from the Committee on Finance, with a recommendation that it do not pass.

dation that it do not pass.

Mr. HUNTER, from the same committee, reported back the Military Academy appropriation bill, and intimated his intention to call it up at the

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill to extend the bounty land law.

A general debate ensued on amendments; but without coming to any conclusion thereon, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of Executive business, and afterwards adjourned. country as shown by statistics, bringing down those of the National Census always to date. management and a large and well-selected correspondence, to establish at the seat of govern

The SPEAKER laid before the House a message from the President of the United States, inclosing a communication from the Secretary of the Navy, in response to a resolution of the 11th ult., calling for the views of the last named officer with regard to the re-establishment of the navy-yard at of the States.

regard to the re-establishment of the navy-yard at Memphis, Tennessee.

Mr. STANTON, of Tennessee, said that when the Navy appropriation bill shall be taken up, he will move an amendment with a view to re-establish the navy-yard at that place. He moved that the message be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

Mr. PHELPS objected, saying, we have too the state of the Union with the reference he should not be the should not the state of the Union.

guity to the large commercial cities, from the exmany navy-yards, and that, therefore, he should oppose any further increase of them.

Mr. STANTON moved the message be referred to a select committee of five members; and this tended, exciting, and all important interests that concentrate upon it, is, perhaps, the most eligible location for such a journal, and ample guarantees was agreed to.

Mr. FENTON introduced a bill for continuin of its success have already been received. It will be printed in folio for the convenience of binding

the improvement of the harbor at Dunkirk, New York; which was referred to the Committee of Commerce.
Mr. SOLLERS moved that the bill further su

plementary to the act authorizing payment to property lost, captured, or destroyed by the enem-while in the military service of the United States and for other purposes, be made the special order of the day for the 11th of January. But objection On motion by Mr. JONES, of Tennessee, a r

solution was adopted for terminating the debate on the bill for the relief of purchasers and locaters of swamp and overflowed lands, in two hours after the same shall be again taken up in the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

The House resolved itself into the Committee

The House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union on this bill, when Mr. HARRIS, of Mississippi, commenced a speech in reply to Mr. CLINGMAN, in opposition to the last-named gentleman's proposition authorizing the President of the United States to tender the mediation of this country, with a view to settle the difficulties of the powers of Europe now engaged in warfare, but before concluding yielded to a motion that the committee rise.

to a motion that the committee rise.

The House subsequently resumed the consideration of the pending subject in committee,

when Mr. SOLLERS said he had listened to the re marks of Messrs. Barry and Keitt, in their de-nunciation of Know-nothingism, but they had failed to utter a single argument to convince him that he was wrong in his views concerning the new organization.

He proceeded to speak of the triumphs

"Know-nothingism," as the geutleman from South Carolina called it, in Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland. Suppose Know-nothingism did come from Massachusetts as the gentleman [Mr. KEITT] charged, in his [M. Sollers's opinion, it came from the proper spo Bunker Hill is in Massachusetts, and so are Cor and the Leaington; and the descendants of these men who there shed their blood will continue t maintain their liberty.

The gentleman from South Carelina opposed the

new party, because, among other reasons, he said it interfered with State rights. But, from the paper before him, professing to be the organ of the Know-nothings, the object of the organiza-States, but the Union of the States. If he knew anything about it, it looks alike on the northern Abolitionist and the southern fanatic, and would Adolitionist and the southern fanatic, and would place them side by side and hang them both as high as Haman. The fanatics of the North and the South, if not in point of law, are in fact guilty of moral treason. It is for the preservation of the Union, and the whole Union, that this new party

Union, and the whole Union, that this new party has been organized.

The gentlemen from Mississippi and South Carolina had told the House what the Know-Nothings are going to do. But he would tell them what the Know-Nothings will not do. They will not dissolve the Union, but uphold it; and, as for Maryland, it goes for the Constitution as it is, and the Union. [Applause.] They do not intend to permit southern nullifiers to assert the doctrine of secession, after having submitted questions to the Supreme Court of the United States to decide their constitutionality. They do not intend to the Supreme Court of the United States to decide their constitutionality. They do not intend to quibble about the interpretation of the Constitution like a prude, and violate it like a prostitute. They propose not to invade any section, but insist on the preservation of our nationality. He opposed the vast immigration of foreigners, and claimed, as a constitutional right, the privilege to meet in secret for political purposes.

Mr. LETCHER obtained the floor, but yielded

Mr. GIDDINGS, for an explanation. The las Mr. GIDDINGS, for an explanation. The last named gentleman said he had asked Mr. SOLLERS, (who had remarked in general terms that the Know-nothings will preserve the Union on the principals of the Constitution, and leave slavery where that instrument placed it,) whether they would restore freedom to Kansas? But the gentleman showed the white feather and backed out. The gentleman was well-deserving of the principles which he professes as a Know-nothing or a say-nothing. The people of the United States have a right to know the principals of any party. The concealment of them was a deception and a fraud.

The concealment of them was a deception and a fraud.

Mr. KEITT made a brief explanation, relative to an allusion of Mr. Sollers against nullification. The people of South Carolina, he said, fought that battle openly. The nullification party of 1832 sought no subterranean hall; there was no Catiline there to foster midnight conspiracy, and, when denounced, plead Know-nothingism. They offered to fight the government on principle, in open day. He was a member of the secession party of 1850; and avowed that if the government should strike at the rights and liberties of his State, by heaven he would strike back. He only owed allegiance to South Carolina, and through her to the general government. When anything personal was said, he should answer by a monosyllable.

lable.
Mr. LETCHER said that the subject nominall Mr. LETCHER said that the subject nominally under consideration was the swamp land bill, and that he imagined there were not five men in the House who had thought of the bill since the discussion commenced. He then proceeded to speak on the question, opposing the bill in its present form, and offering an amendment, as a substitute, to cover everything asked for fo quiet conflicting claims to lands. claims to lands.

After further discussion, the substitute wa

agreed to; and when the committee rose, th bill, thus amended, was passed, And the House adjourned.

Supreme Court of the United States, THURSDAY, January 4, 1855.

Nos. 38 and 39. James Williams's administrator, appellant, vs. Robert Oliver's executor and John Gooding's administrator, appellant vs. Robert Oliver's executors. The argumen of these cases was continued by Mesars. J Campbell and Reverdy Johnson for the appellers, and by Mr. Dulany for the appellants Adjourned till to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

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Nov. 30—eodlm [Union and Star.]

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